REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination of the present application. The Office Action mailed rejected claims 1-14. This is a full and timely response to that outstanding Office Action. Claims 1-20 are pending.

I. Present Status of Patent Application

Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Wasilewski, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,157,719). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

II. Rejections of Claims 1-14 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

The Office Action rejects claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by *Wasilewski*, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,157,719). For at least the reasons set forth below, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. As provided in 35 U.S.C. 102(e), the cited references must be authored "by another." U.S. Patent No. 6,157,719 has the same inventorship as the instant application, namely, Howard Pinder and Anthony Wasilewski. Therefore, rejection of claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,157,719 is clearly improper and should be withdrawn for at least that reason.

III. Newly Added Claims 15-20

Applicant respectfully submits that newly added claims 15-20 are allowable over the references of record for at least the reason that the references fail to disclose, teach, or suggest, either implicitly or explicitly, all the elements of claims 15-20, including at least means for encrypting a second portion of the selected digital bit stream according to a second encryption method to provide a second encrypted stream wherein the second encryption method is different from the first encryption method. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter is added with the new claims.

IV. Miscellaneous Issues

Any other statements in the Office Action that are not explicitly addressed herein are not intended to be admitted. In addition, any and all findings of inherency are traversed as not having been shown to be necessarily present. Furthermore, any and all findings of well-known art and official notice, or statements interpreted similarly, should not be considered well known for the particular and specific reasons that the claimed combinations are too complex to support such conclusions and because the Office Action does not include specific findings predicated on sound technical and scientific reasoning to support such conclusions.

Serial No.: 10/602,988

Art Unit: 2131 Page 10

CONCLUSION

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that all objections

and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that claims 1-

20 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present

application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the

Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is

invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

It is believed that no extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required,

beyond those which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper.

However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this

paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required

therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to deposit

account No. 20-0778.

Respectfully submitted.

/BAB/

Benjamin A. Balser, Reg. No. 58,169

THOMAS, KAYDEN, HORSTEMEYER & RISLEY, L.L.P.

Suite 1500 600 Galleria Parkway N.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30339 (770) 933-9500